



National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior

National Park of  
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## National Park of American Samoa News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 23, 2015

### Tourism to the National Park of American Samoa Creates \$952,500 in Economic Benefits

PAGO PAGO, American Samoa—A new National Park Service report shows that 13,952 visitors to the National Park of American Samoa in 2014 spent \$782,500 in villages near the park. That spending supported nine jobs in the local area and had a cumulative benefit to the local economy of \$952,500.

“The National Park of American Samoa is proud to welcome visitors from throughout American Samoa and around the world,” said Acting Superintendent Barbara Alberti. “We are delighted to share the story of this place and the experiences it provides. We also feature the park as a way to introduce our visitors to this part of the South Pacific and all that it offers. National park tourism is a significant driver in the national economy—returning \$10 for every \$1 invested in the National Park Service, and it’s a big factor in our local economy as well. We appreciate the partnership and support of the villages and are glad to be able to give back by helping to sustain local communities.”

The peer-reviewed visitor spending analysis was conducted by U.S. Geological Survey economists Catherine Cullinane Thomas and Christopher Huber and National Park Service economist Lynne Koontz. The report shows \$15.7 billion of direct spending by 292.8 million park visitors in communities within 60 miles of a national park. This spending supported 277,000 jobs nationally; 235,600 of those jobs are found in these gateway communities. The cumulative benefit to the U.S. economy was \$ 29.7 billion.

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According to the 2014 report, most park visitor spending was for lodging (30.6 percent) followed by food and beverages (20.3 percent), gas and oil (11.9 percent), admissions and fees (10.2 percent) and souvenirs and other expenses (9.9 percent).

To download the report visit [www.nature.nps.gov/socialscience/economics.cfm](http://www.nature.nps.gov/socialscience/economics.cfm). This report includes information for visitor spending at individual parks, states, and territories.

To learn more about the National Park of American Samoa and how the National Park Service works with the American Samoa villages to help preserve local history, conserve the environment, and provide outdoor recreation, go to [www.nps.gov/americansamoa](http://www.nps.gov/americansamoa).

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